

REMARKS

Claims 21, 24-36, 38-39 and 41-46 are currently pending, with claims 21, 35 and 39 being the only independent claims. Claims 38 and 41-43 have been canceled. Claims 21, 35, 39 and 44-46 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, in view of the following amendment and remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 21-27 and 35-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0172654 ("*Lawheed*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,429,661 ("*McClure*") and U.S. Patent No. 5,027,602 ("*Glenn*"). Claims 28-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Lawheed* in view of *McClure*, *Glen* and WO 85/02881 ("*Lipovetz*"). For the following reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are requested.

Applicants note the Examiner's suggestion at pg. 2 of the Final Office Action to "reinstate the triple rotors back to the independent claims and clearly reciting both the inlet and the suction chamber of the root blower to the independent claims" to thereby place the instant application into condition for allowance.

Applicants thank the Examiner for his indication of allowable subject matter and for his assistance in advancing prosecution on the merits of the instant application. Independent claims 21, 25 and 39 have been amended in the suggested manner. Accordingly, it is believed that independent claims 21, 25 and 39 as now amended are patentable over the cited art. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 are believed to be in order, and notice to that effect is requested.

Dependent claims 24-34 and 44, which depend from independent claim 21, are deemed to be allowable *at least* because independent claim 21 is allowable. Dependent claims 36 and 45,

which depend from independent claim 35, are deemed to be allowable *at least* because independent claim 35 is allowable. Dependent claim 46, which depends from independent claim 39, is deemed to be allowable *at least* because independent claim 39 is allowable. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

This application and all pending claims are now deemed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, suggestions, or objections, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned in order to facilitate reaching a resolution of any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,
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